

Understanding the Times

Law Unit Study Guide

Christianity (pp. 284-290)

1. What happens when we fail to consider law as sacred?
2. What is likely to happen if fallen people create their own laws?
3. What is the absolute basis for law?
4. What kind of legal system is produced by a Christian view of law?
5. What does Christian legal theory tell us about the necessity and implementation of law?
6. In what two ways has God revealed his law to mankind?
7. What are the five basic precepts of Christian law?
8. In Christian law, what is the origin of human rights?
9. Give three biblical guidelines for an ordered legal system.

Islam (pp. 291-296)

10. What is *Shari'ah Law*?
11. Give three examples of legal pronouncements encased in *Shari'ah Law*.
12. What are the four main sources for *Shari'ah Law*?
13. What five categories of behavior are expressed in *Shari'ah Law*?
14. Nations with predominantly Muslim populations tend toward what kinds of government? What is the result?
15. Historically, how has *Shari'ah Law* affected men and women?

Secular Humanism (pp. 297-301)

16. Identify the foundational assumptions of Secular Humanist legal theory.
17. How do Secular Humanists view God's commands?
18. What is *legal positivism*? What does it lead to in its strictest sense?
19. In Secular Humanism, what is the origin of human rights?
20. What is the real problem created by humanist legal theory?

Marxism-Leninism (pp. 303-307)

21. What are the basic assumptions of Marxist legal theory?
22. According to Marxist theory, how does law come into existence?
23. According to Marxist theory, why is society more responsible than individuals for lawlessness?
24. What is the Marxist solution to an unjust society?
25. For Marxists, when will the need for law be abolished?

Cosmic Humanism (pp. 309-310)

26. Why is it that Cosmic Humanists don't spend much time discussing law?
27. What is *self law*?

Postmodernism (pp. 311-315)

28. According to Postmodernism, what are the sources of Western law? What do they reflect?
29. Why do Postmodernists want to eliminate the religious and transcendent qualities from law?
30. How does Postmodernism view universal standards of legal judgment?
31. How do people like Estrich, Marx, Nietzsche, and Foucault view law?
32. Why do Postmodernists prefer storytelling over objective reasoning as a basis for law?